

My name is Sally Champlin. I've been a performer for over 30 years and a member of AFTRA nearly that long. I'm concerned about the FCC's localism issues and want my voice heard with other performing professionals who are my peers.

I've been a songwriter for years and my brother is Bill Champlin, long-time member of the rock group, CHICAGO. Just think how this affects all music and my family's in particular! This is worse than payola. It's tantamount to ownership of local airwaves. NO, NO, NO. Allow everyone a shot at air time and fairly, please!

NO to prescribing anything for local airwaves not determined by local interests! They will then effectively OWN the airwaves. NO, NO, NO. Where is the American competitive spirit? We're killing it by such moves. Local programming means created locally, chosen locally, reflecting local interests and tastes. The FCC should guarantee that programming decisions are made at the local station level. Where is the logic in anything else? "Locally aired, locally chosen" should be the sacred hymn on this issue.

Payola is the "criminal" version of large media ownership of the airwaves.

Yes, localism suffers under the thumb of larger entities. Any form of control, from playlists to payola to big corporate ownership ALL defeat the concept of "local."

The LPFM stations could benefit the music community and define their own niche and function if we simply allow them to be on their own. Again, allowing individualism makes America strong and always has. Why do otherwise?

The FCC is an invaluable institution in the American culture. In this case, however, leave the airwaves alone, please? Otherwise, by hook or crook, the airwaves will surely be owned by about five right-wing media moguls as they almost are right now. Please be our champion for airwaves freedom?

Most sincerely, Sally Champlin, AFTRA Member